

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2 DATA FILE

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Not to be taken away before the
end of the examination session

1. Mrs Lee's email

To: Terry Wong
From: Mrs Lee
Date: April 29th 2011
Subject: Information about the flyer and the email for Prof. Liu

Dear Terry,

Just a few suggestions about the flyer for the special event and the email to Prof. Liu.

The flyer for the special event

The presentation topics are:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Skyscrapers and the environment | } | Put these in
the flyer! |
| 2. Green skyscrapers | | |

Email to Prof. Liu

- Mention you are writing on behalf of the Student Union and state the purpose of the email.
- Explain the REASONS for holding the event – e.g. to raise students' awareness of the impact of the high rise buildings; give him a few more details here.
- Give details of the talk – the venue, when he needs to arrive, what he will need to do, e.g. the cheque presentation.
- Mention that you are attaching the finalised flyer and give him your contact details.
- Closing – make it sound polite.
- Put your full name.

Please let me have a look at the flyer and email after you have finished.

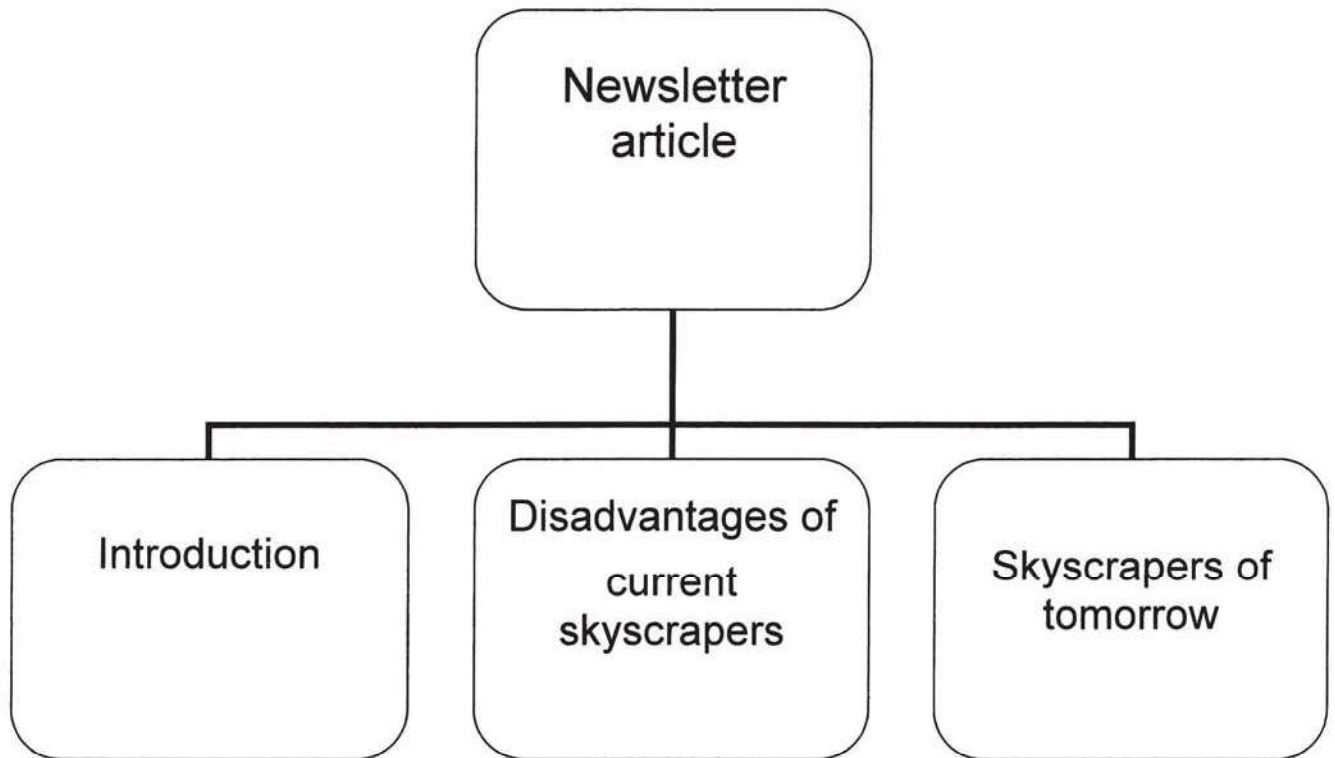
Good luck,
Mrs Lee

2. Notesheet

✓ Mention my mobile
number - 71237123

Notesheet

3. Writing plan for the article for the newsletter



4. Last year's 'Environment Day' flyer

<h1>NATHAN COLLEGE</h1>	
<h2>ENVIRONMENT DAY</h2>	
<p>All proceeds will go to support Green Peace</p>	
Venue:	The Gym
Date:	Friday September 25th 2010 Sunday, July 9 th 2011
Time:	9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.
Guest Speaker:	Dr. Amy Lin Professor Kenneth
Project Presentations:	Country parks in Hong Kong LPG taxis – a solution to air pollution in Hong Kong? Mangroves in Mai Po
Closing Ceremony:	A cheque from Green Peace to be presented by the Principal
Entrance Fee:	\$10.00

5. Professor Liu's name card

The University of Kowloon	<p style="text-align: center;"> THE UNIVERSITY OF KOWLOON School of Architecture Professor Kenneth Liu B. Arch., M. Arch., D.Arch. </p> <p> Room 332, Raymond Chow Building, 361, South Island Road, Hong Kong </p> <p> Tel: (852) 2768 5341 Fax: (852) 2769 7633 Email: kliu@kuhk.edu.hk </p>
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6. Extracts from a weblog

Today is my last day in Hong Kong and I'm so glad that I can finally get away from the dirty air, the noise pollution here. There are just too many tall buildings too close together. They heat up the city like an oven. Couldn't more people here move to the New Territories and live in houses? I wouldn't mind travelling a bit further in the morning just to get fresher air and cooler temperatures. I know that people here are so proud of living in skyscrapers, but they don't realise these buildings create heat islands and trap pollution. These buildings are enemies of our environment!

Green Lover (Stockholm)

Move to the New Territories? Are you kidding me? Do you have any idea how many people live in Hong Kong? Without these tall buildings, how can the city accommodate its ever-growing population? Having all these tall residential and commercial buildings means we can use our land for other purposes, you know – for recreation, farming, etc. We need the country parks for relaxing and hiking. We need land for farming and growing food and thanks to skyscrapers, we still have some land left for farmers in Hong Kong. Skyscrapers take up much less land than lots of little houses. I live in a flat myself and they are more environmentally friendly than you think. People don't have to travel so far to their offices in the city so less fuel is used. And you know, it's so much easier and cheaper to dispose of rubbish if everyone lives closer together in skyscrapers instead of in lots of little houses.

Joe (Sheung Wan)

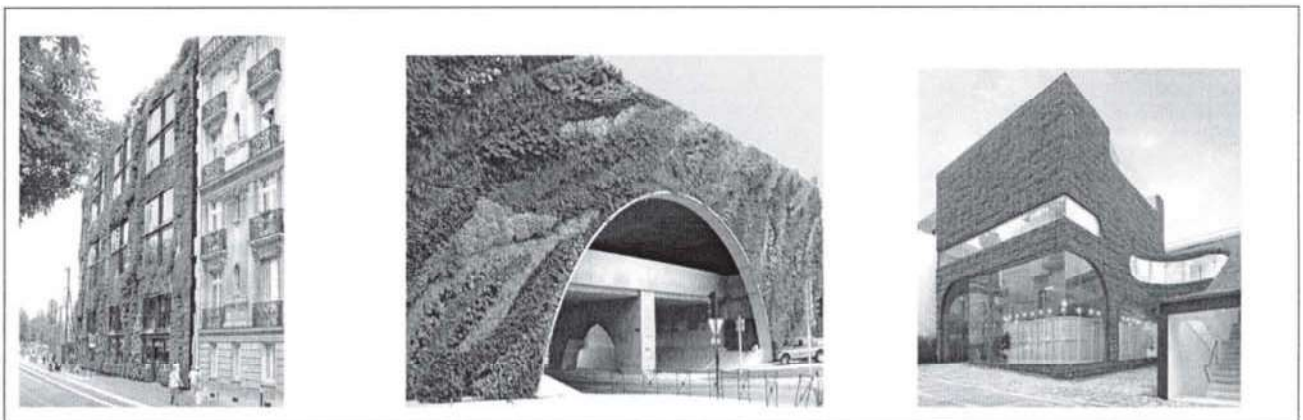
How can you describe these 'urban monsters' as environmentally friendly? Don't you know these giant structures are made of lots and lots of concrete and steel and are expensive to build? Maintaining these buildings is really expensive too. Running the lifts and keeping the building lit costs a lot of money, as does pumping water to the top of these 'urban monsters' and running the air-conditioning systems.

Green Lover (Stockholm)

I share your views. Hong Kong is getting hotter and hotter because of our super-tall buildings. Because of poor planning, these skyscrapers just pop up all over the place unregulated, absorbing heat, blocking the breeze, and making our city into an island of heat. I liked the Hong Kong skyline before, but now it's been ruined by the interests of a greedy few. I know that these tall buildings are important to us and I imagine in the future our buildings will be two or three times higher than they are now to accommodate more people, but I hope that in the future, skyscrapers will become more environmentally friendly. I'd be willing to pay more for greener skyscrapers.

Coral_reef (Sai Kung)

7. Pictures of green walls



8. Extract from a book review

Title: Skyscrapers - Past and Future: Professor Kenneth Liu

Egyptians and Romans built tall structures thousands of years ago as symbols of wealth and power, but also to protect themselves from enemies or to bury their Kings and Queens or Emperors and Consuls. Here in Hong Kong and around the world we still build skyscrapers to show how rich and powerful *or* how clever we are. But there is also an environmental reason for having tall buildings in cities. Nowadays, millions of people live in urban areas. The amount of land available is not sufficient to build lots of little houses. In order to ensure that everyone in the city has a place to live and work we need to construct tall buildings.

This wonderful book by **Professor K. Liu** unlocks the story of skyscrapers, their past, their present and their future

9. Transcript of an RTHK interview with Professor Liu

Interviewer: *Today we're happy to have Professor Kenneth Liu, President of the Green Skyscraper Society of Hong Kong (GSSHK). Hello, Professor Liu. Thanks for coming in today.*

Professor Liu: My pleasure, Ms Huang.

Interviewer: *So what exactly is a skyscraper?*

Professor Liu: Well – a skyscraper is a tall building – keeping in mind that there is no specified height that makes a skyscraper a skyscraper – usually used for commercial or residential purposes.

Interviewer: *Okay, thanks for that, Professor Liu. So could you now explain what you mean by a green skyscraper?*

Professor Liu: Sure – a green skyscraper is a skyscraper which is environmentally friendly, meaning it has low energy needs and actually helps to cool our cities. Hopefully, all skyscrapers of the future will be green!

Interviewer: *And one of your main projects at the moment is to put gardens on the sides of our buildings – to have green walls!*

Professor Liu: That's correct. Green walls help to reduce city temperatures a lot.

Interviewer: *So what effect are skyscrapers having on Hong Kong?*

Professor Liu: Well, if there are a lot of skyscrapers, there are a lot of streets and buildings which are made of materials that absorb a lot of heat. That's why urban areas like Hong Kong are much warmer than less urban areas.

Interviewer: *Hong Kong is already really hot!*

Professor Liu: Exactly, and it's getting hotter. Right now, skyscrapers are built too close together so they block natural, cooling breezes. Not only is it hotter, but pollution is trapped too. And we all know that rising temperatures and pollution have a very negative effect on health. So you can see the hotter and more polluted the environment is, the more uncomfortable people feel. They can't breathe properly. They get heat stroke and heart attacks. So we really do need to think of a way to clean up the air and cool Hong Kong down so that it's a better place to live for future generations.

Interviewer: *Yeah. So Professor Liu, what do you see as the way forward in city design?*

Professor Liu: Well, new skyscrapers must be built far enough away from each other to allow breezes to blow around them so that urban centres are cooler and the air is cleaner.

Interviewer: *Okay, but this won't happen unless the government brings in new laws and regulations to force developers to put more space between buildings. Have you presented your ideas to the government?*

Professor Liu: Yes, it's very important to get the government thinking green and hopefully these new laws will be a reality in the next 10 years or so. But in addition to the laws, other stakeholders such as architects, property developers and the general public who use these buildings need to play a part too.

Interviewer: *You mean architects and property developers should become more creative and green-conscious.*

Professor Liu: Exactly. And because of all these improvements, skyscrapers in the future will be more expensive to build. The people who use them must be willing to pay more.

Interviewer: *I'm sure cities of the future will look very different from the way they do today. I know that the GSSHK is also running a project on green walls or vertical gardens.*

Professor Liu: Yes, that's right. You know, we need to create more natural vegetation, more gardens and more open spaces. As you say, we are already working on vertical gardens as skyscrapers get taller and taller. We will introduce the idea of having gardens at many different levels in every building. So cities will have buildings with gardens everywhere!

Interviewer: *Sounds great – gardens in the sky!*

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Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *Examination Report and Question Papers* published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.